



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KNUDSON ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN  
Serial No.: 10/600,088 Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN  
Filed: JUNE 20, 2003 Docket: 14283.2US01  
Due Date: SEPTEMBER 20, 2003  
Title: GASTRO-ESOPHAGEAL REFLUX DISEASE (GERD) TREATMENT METHOD AND APPARATUS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 5, 2003.

By: Kastha Al-Waah  
Name: Kastha Al-Waah

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

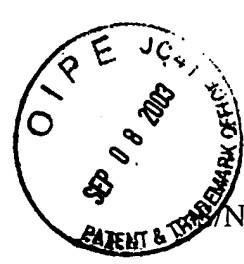
- Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 31 Reference(s)
- Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
612.332.5300



By: David G. Schmaltz  
Name: David G. Schmaltz  
Reg. No.: 39,828  
DSchmaltz:PSTtdm



N 10/600,088

PATENT

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By: Kristin A. Welch  
Name: Kristin A. Welch

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted within three months of the filing date of the above-identified application, which is not an application under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d). Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked

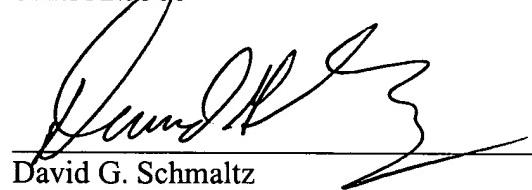
as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

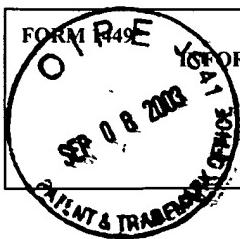
Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P. O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903  
612.332.5300

Date 9/5/03

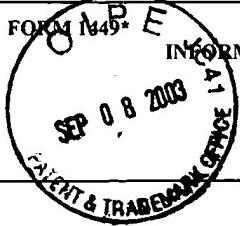
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David G. Schmaltz  
Reg. No. 39,828  
DGS:PSTtdm



 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 14283.2US01	Application Number: 10/600,088
		Applicant: KNUDSON ET AL.	Filing Date: 06/20/2003

<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	4,403,604	09/13/1983	Wilkinson et al.			
	4,592,339	06/03/1986	Kuzmak et al.			
	4,846,836	07/11/1989	Reich			
	5,006,106	04/09/1991	Angelchik			
	5,074,868	12/24/1991	Kuzmak			
	5,226,429	07/13/1993	Kuzmak			
	5,403,326	04/04/1995	Harrison et al.			
	5,549,621	08/27/1996	Bessler et al.			
	5,771,903	06/30/1998	Jakobsson			
	5,861,014	01/19/1999	Familoni			
	5,919,233	07/06/1999	Knopf et al.			
	6,074,341	06/13/2000	Anderson et al.			
	6,098,629	08/08/2000	Johnson et al.			
	6,104,955	08/15/2000	Bourgeois			
	6,432,040 B1	08/13/2002	Meah			
	6,450,173 B1	09/17/2002	Forsell			
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>						
	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
						YES
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)						
		Crookes, P. et al., "The Angelchik Prosthesis: What Have We Learned in Fifteen Years?" <i>Ann Thorac Surg</i> , Vol. 57, pp. 1385-1386 (1994).				
		Curley, S. et al., "Late Complications After Gastric Reservoir Reduction With External Wrap," <i>Arch Surg</i> , Vol. 122, pp. 781-783 (July 1987).				
		DeVault, K. et al., "Practice Guidelines: Updated Guidelines for the Diagnosis and Treatment of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," <i>AJG</i> , Vol. 94, No. 6, pp. 1434-1442 (1999).				

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	

 <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT</b> <b>IN AN APPLICATION</b> (Use several sheets if necessary)		Docket Number: 14283.2US01	Application Number: 10/600,088
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		Filing Date: 06/20/2003	Group Art Unit: UNKNOWN

<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
		Evans, D. et al., "An objective long-term evaluation of the Angelchik antireflux prosthesis," <i>Annals of the Royal College of Surgeons of England</i> , Vol. 73, pp. 355-360 (1991).	
		Gray, H. et al., "The Digestive System," <i>Anatomy of the Human Body</i> , Thirtieth American Edition, pp. 1446 (Date Unknown).	
		Hinder, R. et al., "Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication Is an Effective Treatment for Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease," <i>Annals Of Surgery</i> , Vol. 220, No. 4, pp. 472-483 (October 1994).	
		Hunt, R., "The relationship between the control of pH and healing and symptom relief in gastro-oesophageal reflux disease," <i>Aliment Pharmacol Ther</i> , Vol. 9, Suppl. 1, pp. 3-7 (1995).	
		Kozarek, R. et al., "An Anti-Reflux Prosthesis in the Treatment of Gastroesophageal Reflux," <i>Annals of Internal Medicine</i> , Vol. 98, pp. 310-315 (1983).	
		Lafullarde, T. et al., "Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication: Five-Year Results and Beyond," <i>Arch Surg</i> , Vol 136, pp. 180-184 (February 2001).	
		Mattar, S. et al., "M1910: Short-Term Outcome of Collis-Nissen Gastroplasty Using A Wedge Gastroplasty Technique," <i>DDW AstraZeneca</i> , 1 pg. (May 2003).	
		Perdikis, G. et al., "Laparoscopic Nissen Fundoplication: Where Do We Stand?," <i>Surgical Laparoscopy &amp; Endoscopy</i> , Vol. 7, No. 1, pp. 17-21 (1997).	
		Rantanen, T. et al., "The Long Term Results of Open Antireflux Surgery in a Community-Based Health Care Center," <i>The American Journal of Gastroenterology</i> , Vol. 94, No. 7, pp. 1777-1781 (1999).	
		Rothstein, R. et al., "Endoscopic suturing for gastroesophageal reflux disease: clinical outcome with the Bard EndoCinch," <i>Gastrointest Endosc Clin N Am</i> , Vol. 13, pp. 89-101 (2003).	
		Schauer, P. et al., "Surgical Management of Gastroesophageal Reflux Disease in Obese Patients," <i>Seminars in Laparoscopic Surgery</i> , Vol. 8, No. 4, pp. 256-264 (December 2001).	
		Wilkinson, L. et al., "Gastric (Reservoir) Reduction for Morbid Obesity," <i>Arch Surg</i> , Vol. 116, pp. 602-605 (May 1981).	

Customer No. 23552

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.	